

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 4, 2008, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 3 – 5, 10, 12, 13, and 16 are rejected, and Claims 6 – 9, 14, and 15 are withdrawn. Claim 16 is amended. Thus, Claims 1, 3 – 10, and 12 – 16 are pending in this application. Support for the amendments may be found in the specification as originally filed. Applicants submit that no new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. The Office Action states that Claim 16 recites the limitation “said data electrodes” in lines 10-11, and that there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 16 is amended responsive to this rejection. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §112 rejection of Claim 16. If any further amendment is necessary in order to overcome this rejection, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned representative.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3 – 5, 10, 12, 13, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kosaka (U.S. Patent No. 6,727,869, hereinafter “Kosaka”) in view of Sano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,002,296, hereinafter “Sano”) and further in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 7,067,977, hereinafter “Kim”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As noted above, claim 16 has been amended. To the extent that the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejection.

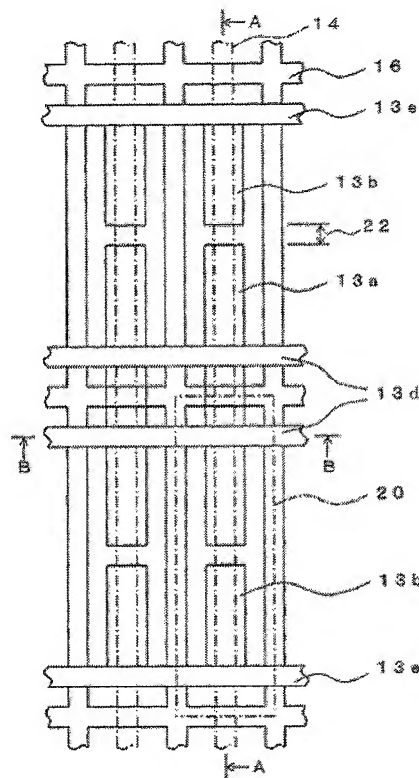
The Examiner admits that Kosaka does not disclose or suggest a plasma display panel with barrier ribs configured in a closed shape comprising at least the combination of a plurality of sustain electrodes each spaced apart in a row direction at a predetermined cell length, wherein said plurality of sustain electrodes substantially align with the barrier ribs in a row direction and are substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the row direction; and a plurality of data electrodes overlapping a wall of said barrier ribs in a column direction, each of said data electrodes extending under said cell area, wherein the data electrode substantially aligns with the barrier rib in the column direction and is substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the column direction, as recited in claim 1.

The Office Action relies on Sano, asserting that Sano teaches “each data (14 in fig. 7) and sustain (13 in fig. 7) electrode is substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the column and row direction (clear from fig. 7), respectively.”

The Applicants respectfully submit that Sano fails to disclose or suggest these features, as shown in Fig. 7 of Sano, below. Sano fails to disclose sustain electrodes

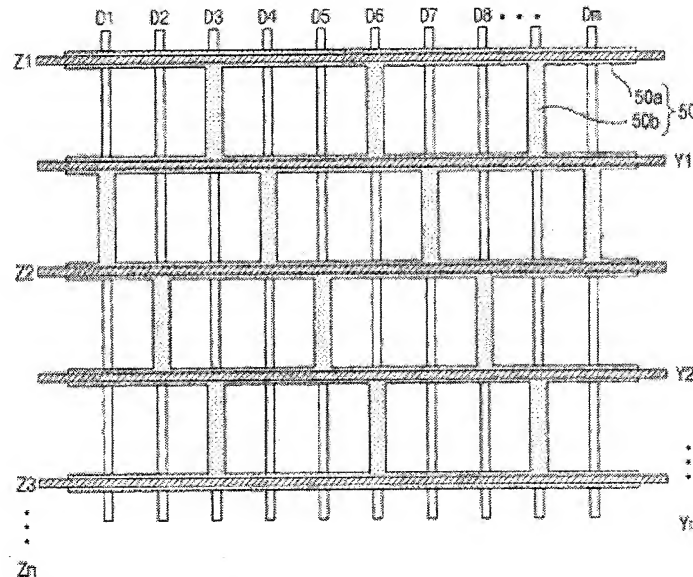
13a having substantially the same width as the barrier rib 16 in the row direction and the data electrode 14 having substantially the same width as the barrier rib 16 in the column direction. The Applicants note that Sano discloses the data electrodes 14 and the sustain electrodes 13a aligned in the same direction, and the sustain electrodes having a greater width than the data electrodes.

Thus, Sano fails to cure the deficiency in Kosaka.



Kim also fails to cure the deficiency in Kosaka and Sano. Kim fails to disclose that data electrodes substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the column direction, in contrast to the Office Action's assertion. The Applicants note that in Fig. 7 that is cited in the office action, as shown below, Kim teaches a barrier rib 50b being thicker than the data electrodes D1-Dm, and the barrier rib 50a, that is thicker than the

sustain electrodes Y1-Yn and Z1-Zn. Therefore, Kim fails to cure the deficiency in Kosaka and Sano.



Furthermore, Kosaka specifically teaches away from reducing the width of the sustain electrodes X1, Y1, etc. to be substantially the same as the barrier ribs, in column 9, lines 42-48, where Kosaka states that in the embodiment shown in Figs. 8, 9A, and 9B “Yi, Xi, Yi’ electrodes are advantageous for . . . enhancing more brightness owing to the wide electrode width.”

As noted in MPEP 2143.01, a proposed modification cannot render a piece of prior art unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. The Office Action’s proposed modification of reducing the width of the sustain electrodes in Kosaka would undermine the intended purpose of the width of the electrodes in Kosaka by removing the enhanced brightness in Kosaka’s design.

Thus, none of Kosaka, Sano, and Kim, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a plasma display panel with barrier ribs configured in a closed shape comprising, at least the combination of:

a plurality of sustain electrodes each spaced apart in a row direction at a predetermined cell length, wherein said plurality of sustain electrodes substantially align with the barrier ribs in a row direction and are substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the row direction; and

a plurality of data electrodes overlapping a wall of said barrier ribs in a column direction, each of said data electrodes extending under said cell area, wherein the data electrode substantially aligns with the barrier rib in the column direction and is substantially the same width as the barrier rib in the column direction, as recited in claim 1.

For at least this combination of reasons, the Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is allowable over the cited art. For similar reasons, the Applicants submit that claims 10 and 16 are likewise allowable. As claims 1 and 10 are allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 3-5 and 12-13, which depend from allowable claims 1 and 10, are therefore also allowable for at least the above noted reason and for the additional subject matter recited therein.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event that this paper is not being timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Docket Number 025789-00010.

Respectfully submitted,



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